

The Historie

The very bottome and the soule of hope,
The very list, the very vtmost bound
Of all our fortunes.

Doug. Faith, and so we should,
Where now remains a sweet reuersion,
We may boldly spend, vpon the hope, of what 'tis to come in:
A comfort of retirement liues in this.

Hot. A randeuous, a home to flie vnto,
If that the Diuell and mischance looke big
Vpon the maiden-head of our affaires.

Wor. But yet I would your father had bin here:
The qualitie and haire of our attempt
Brookes no diuision, it will be thought
By some, that know not why he is away,
That wisdom, loyaltie, and meere dislike
Of our proceedings, kept the Earle from hence,
And thinke, how such an apprehension
May turne the tide of fearefull faction,
And breed a kind of question in our cause:
For, well you know, we of the offring side,
Must keepe aloofe from strict arbitrement,
And stop all sight-holes, euery loope, from whence
The eye of reason may pric in vpon vs.
This absence of your fathers drawes a curtaine,
That shewes the ignorant, a kind of feare
Before not dreamt of.

Hot. You straine too far.
I rather of his absence make this vse,
It lends a lustre and more great opinion,
A larger dare to our great enterprise,
Then if the Earle were here: for men must thinke,
If we without his helpe can make a head
To push against a kingdom, with his helpe
We shall or eturne it, topsie turuy downe,
Yet all goes well, yet all our ioynts are whole.

Doug. As heart can thinke, there is not such a word
Spoke of in Scotland, as this tearme of feare.

Enter Sir R. Vernon.

Hot.

of Henry the fourth.

Hot. My coosen Vernon, welcome by my soule.

Ver. Pray God my newes be worth a welcome, lord.
The Earle of Westmerland, seuen thousand strong,
Is marching hitherwards, with Prince Iohn.

Hot. No harme, what more?

Ver. And further I haue learnd,
The King himselfe in person is set forth,
Or hitherwards intended speedily,
With strong and mighty preparation.

Hot. He shal be welcome too: where is his sonne,
The nimble footed madcap, Prince of Wales?
And his Cumrades, that dast the world aside,
And bid it passe?

Ver. All furnisht, all in Armes:
All plunde like Estridges, that with the wind
Baited like Eagles hauing lately bath'd,
Glittering in golden coats like images,
As full of spirit as the month of May,
And gorgeous as the sunne at Midsomer,
Wanton as youthfull goates, wild as young buls:
I saw young Harry with his beuer on,
His cushes on his thighs, gallantly armed,
Rise from the ground like feathered Mercury,
And vaulted with such ease into his seat,
As if an Angel dropt downe from the clouds,
To turne and wind a fiery Pegasus,
And witch the world with noble horfemanship.

Hot. No more, no more, worse then the sun in March,
This praise doth nourish agues, let them come,
They come like sacrifices in their trim,
And to the fire-eyd maid of smoky war,
All hot and bleeding will we offer them:
The mailed Mars shall on his altars sit
Vpto the eares in blood. I am on fire
To heare this rich reprizall is so nigh,
And yet not ours: Come, let me taste my horse,
Who is to beare me like a thunderbolt,
Against the bosome of the Prince of Wales,

H 2

Harry

4. with him Prince Iohn.